

PROCEEDINGS OF PUBLIC COMPANIES.

UNITED MEXICAN MINING ASSOCIATION.

The half-yearly general meeting of the proprietors of this association was held on Wednesday, the 22nd inst., at the London Tavern, Sir J. EASTWICK, Bart., M.P., in the chair.—The advertisement convening the meeting was read, as also the minutes of the half-yearly general meeting of the 22nd January, which were confirmed, as a correct report of the proceedings of that meeting.—The following report of the directors was then read:—

REPORT.

The directors beg leave to call the attention of the proprietors to the events that have taken place in the affairs of the association since the last half yearly general meeting, and also the present condition thereof, and, in the first place, to report that, with respect to the Mine of Rayas, the operations therein have been as follows: viz.: The general produce of ores during the last year, ending 31st December, 1842, was—For the sole account of the mine..... 21,491 dollars. On joint account with business..... 26,110

- One or more delegates to be appointed to meet at a certain point, and discuss the subject, and determine on the course to be pursued.
- One of the results of such meeting to be that of diminishing the production of iron, by putting a certain number of furnaces out of blast for a stated period, or till such time as the present supply or stock is exhausted.
- To communicate with the proprietors or lords of collieries and tramways, with the view of diminishing the dead rent, or royalty.
- To form a committee, or committee of communication, whereby the general interests of the iron trade may be protected.

We will not further enter upon the subject this week, but shall gladly lend our columns to the advancement of an object on which we consider the interests and prosperity of the country so much depend.

From the observations which appeared in our columns of last week, touching the affairs of the Mining Company of Ireland, we have received some hints, and believe that, were they forwarded to the office of the company, they would receive every attention on the part of Mr. PUDY, its respected secretary, but which communications appear as unfitted to our columns. We cannot, however, abstain from following out our remarks, in doing which we must needs offer some further observations, more especially as, from the interest we have ever evinced towards Ireland, and particularly her mineral resources, such course is imposed upon us.

In our last number we adverted to the report of the directors of the Mining Company of Ireland; and, while we briefly noted the objections raised, which, we would contend, are perfectly unjustifiable, it is only due to the mining interest to see on what grounds such deductions are drawn, and to which we would direct attention. If mines are opened (whether in Cornwall, or elsewhere), agents, miners, and practical men must needs be obtained, if the locality in which those mines are situated does not possess them—hence Ireland is in no worse position than that of Wales, or any other district; indeed, it is unnecessary to offer words on the subject, and we regret that the directors should have descended to put forward observations of this nature as the cause of the diminution of dividend—and which, after all, is but trivial. All mines must be necessarily dependent, as regards their returns, not only on the nature of the lode and its produce, but the advantages or disadvantages it may possess, as compared with others; while it is "too bad" that the directors of a company should, after some fifteen or sixteen years' existence, think fit to complain of an Act of which they were cognisant at its formation.

We have only further to add that the paragraph in the report of the directors stating that "the depreciation in the price of copper, which had seriously affected their returns, or the profits would have been proportionally greater," is one of those results for which they have themselves to thank; while the proprietors have the right to complain. The directors refused, on "free trade" principles, to join those who felt an interest for the working miner—they now see and feel the results; but, unfortunately, the shareholder suffers from their apathy.

We have to direct attention this week to two meetings more especially directed to the advancement of literary and scientific knowledge, as well as applied to mechanical science. The one—that of the "British and Foreign Institute"—we fear, is upon too gigantic a scale, in the pecuniary point of view, to be available to the many, while the prospective advantages it presents to those who have the means of becoming members, are such as will, we doubt not, be duly appreciated. The formation of a society of this nature is one which we look upon in a national point of view; for, with the patronage already bestowed, and that which may be expected (indeed, the Government itself should lend its influence and support), we contemplate its formation, simply as the precursor of others. How, we would ask, does Belgium take the lead of us in this respect? well may they be proud, in referring to their museum, to be enabled to say, "England cannot produce the like." This we felt on visiting the galleries at Brussels, and could only regret that the work of English artists, in models of machinery, implements, &c., as well as the more minute details of our processes in this country, should be first submitted to us in one comprehensive view by a foreign state, while we could not but feel that it was a disgrace to our Government that no such establishment should exist in the British Isles. It is, however, with gratification, that we here allude to the Museum of Economic Geology, which will receive attention in our next, as forming the only exception to the observations we have felt it our duty to make.

We are glad to have the opportunity (for such an seldom occurs) of advertising to any project which has for its object the acquirement of information and affording the basis of a national institution being formed, of which we might, as a nation, be proud. This institution, of which the Earl of DAVENPORT is the president, presents to us this medium—although we would extend its usefulness, but, with the names associated, either as patrons or active members of the committee, we think little doubt need be entertained of the project being carried out—not only to the satisfaction of those who have interested themselves in the undertaking, but to the advantage of those for whose benefit it has been projected.

Now turn we to another proposed society, that of the "Union of Invention." The principle on which this institution, or company, is proposed to be founded is admirable; and the hon. secretary, who is the projector, we believe received his first lessons from a proposed society, having for its object the union of patentees, under the designation of the "Patentees Protection Society," but which, for want of support, "fell to the ground." We regret to find that this proposed Union carries with it but little strength, insomuch that we do not recognise one name in the provisional committee associated with science or patents, if we except the hon. secretary, whose talents we are ready to admit, and hope he will be able to render them profitable in the present instance. The Count BERNARDIUS (of Brussels), the Baron MOUAY (of Oviedo), and the Count EUSTACHE DE CAURAN (of Paris), may be all very celebrated men, but we are not sensible of the fact. Capt. CHARVILLER, R.I.C.S., we believe, is known, his name having been previously before the public—while the gentlemen whose names appear as forming the committee, are, we believe, recognised (perhaps with one exception) only through the Court Guide or Post Office Directory, for we have every right to assume that each has a location, as well as name. A Mr. WELLS was appointed solicitor.

In noticing these two meetings at the same moment, we do so from the desire of merely directing attention to the old adage of—"Look on this picture and on that."

THE ENDLESS LADDER.

There are few things, perhaps, more calculated than the best method for the removal of building and other materials from the ground to the upper part of houses and public edifices that are in course of erection, but which fails to have the difficulties in this respect put upon a work more manageable footing, by the ingenious efforts of Dr. SPENCE. Some time since this gentleman invented and patented an apparatus for the use of miners in general, consisting of a ladder made to revolve round two cylinders, one at the top, the other at the bottom of the shaft, by which means the dangerous materials can readily ascend, giving to the miners and workmen a safe place. An apparatus has been constructed presenting these very singular advantages—viz.—great saving of unnecessary physical labour and time, and the absence of a great deal of the danger from the carrying up and down ladders; we would advise all practical inventors in the subject to study the views to save the apparatus, it being in full existence on the new buildings now in progress by Mr. Cuthbert, at the Albert Gate, at King's Cross. There is given a model of it in the Royal Polytechnic Institution; and it need be observed that a single person at it will replace more than a dozen women draymen. We understand it is also in use at the new Houses of Parliament. Moreover, a French engineer of invention, has obtained a Patent from Dr. Spence to every part of the plan, and it is his intention to do as well as the spirit so useful an ingenuity deserves.

GRYLLS'S ANNUAL MINING SHEET.

FROM THE 30TH OF JUNE, 1842, TO THE 30TH OF JUNE, 1843.
Containing the quantity of Copper Ore sold from each Mine, British and Foreign—the Average Price per 21 cwt., and the Amount of Money—each Copper Company's Purchase—the Total Amount of Ore, Fine Copper, and Money—the Average Standard, Produce, and Price for the year, both in Cornwall and Wales—the quantity of Tin purchased by the Tin Companies within the same time, &c.

CORNWALL.

Mines.	Ore.	Amount.	Avg. price.
Bodmin	2327	429,055 18 6	£12 4 6
Bolton, Wheal	979	4,728 11 6	4 10 6
Brewer, Wheal	652	3,800 0 6	5 1 6
Bury, Wheal	213	511 11 6	2 8 0
Consolidated Mines	10036	39,337 0 6	5 13 0
Cornish Venus, &c.	1943	10,749 13 6	5 10 6
Cornish Venus	1713	9,081 0 6	5 13 0
Craig Brown	367	5,652 0 6	6 7 6
Charlestown United Mines	360	4,326 0 0	11 4 0
Curtis, Wheal	483	1,081 13 0	3 17 0
Dolcoath	3817	18,168 0 6	4 15 0
Dartington, Wheal	3023	15,464 11 0	5 0 6
East Wheal Croft	3874	33,334 11 0	5 11 0
East Pool	2403	14,959 13 6	6 4 6
Eliza, Wheal	949	4,534 0 6	4 10 0
East Down, Williams's	324	3,133 12 0	3 12 0
Fowey Consols	19755	72,757 0 0	3 14 0
Friendship, Wheal, &c.	3188	52,600 1 0	4 11 0
Francis's Ore	348	619 12 0	2 10 0
Gorland, Wheal	656	3,393 15 0	5 0 6
Granular and St. Asaph	97	617 1 0	6 7 0
Great Work	82	495 17 0	6 1 0
Hallenbeam	4313	17,734 19 0	4 2 0
Holmbeck	2441	19,528 5 6	6 0 0
Harris, Wheal	1115	4,240 18 0	3 16 0
Harvey's Ore	1072	1,366 12 0	1 16 0
Harmony, Wheal	139	607 12 0	4 7 6
Herbrand	61	367 13 0	6 7 0
Jewell, Wheal	1938	11,373 18 0	5 17 6
Lever	9350	19,869 0 6	4 8 0
Maiden, Wheal	441	3,107 15 0	4 15 6
Messer, Wheal	118	713 15 0	6 1 0
North Roscar	4971	28,702 18 0	5 15 6
North Downs	1419	8,940 3 0	6 0 6
Neptune, Wheal	98	338 7 0	5 10 0
Par Consols	6756	43,988 11 0	6 10 0
Poldice	2030	16,789 12 0	5 13 0
Providores, Wheal	1272	9,194 11 0	7 4 6
Providores Mines	1370	6,667 5 0	5 1 6
Penstrehall	168	1,531 17 0	8 3 0
Phoenix Mines	73	673 17 0	9 7 0
Pearson, Wheal	81	390 8 0	6 0 6
South Caradon	5705	34,413 1 0	6 0 6
South Wheel Bassett	3702	22,419 6 0	6 1 0
South Rockwell, &c.	1843	9,275 9 0	5 0 6
St. Andrew, Wheal	987	3,615 1 0	3 12 0
Speed, Wheal	308	1,191 16 0	3 18 0
St. Ives Consols	80	688 0 0	8 4 6
Soudley small mines	1869	7,416 3 0	5 10 0
Trenewas	10329	82,273 9 0	5 1 0
Trellellans	3914	16,440 16 0	4 4 0
Trewavas, Wheal	3481	16,132 0 0	5 0 6
Trellech Consols	1784	7,399 0 0	4 8 0
Trellech	1309	6,386 11 0	4 11 0
Tregudian	869	9,511 14 0	4 0 6
Trewith, Wheal	349	1,039 11 0	5 10 0
Trefedy's Ore	87	1,700 16 0	29 17 0
Tregothian Consols	374	789 17 0	2 3 0
United Mines	10000	59,333 15 0	5 8 0
United Hills	3352	14,760 6 0	4 8 0
Virginia, Wheal	2320	13,914 18 0	5 10 6
Vivyan, Wheal	309	1,057 19 0	3 3 0
West Caradon	1376	8,826 15 0	6 8 0
West Wheal Jewell	1389	7,976 19 0	5 11 0
WALLES.			
American	100	1,715 11 0	17 3 0
Bearhaven	4094	39,190 6 0	6 6 0
Bacchus	319	3,943 0 6	13 7 0
Ballymoteagh	906	3,195 19 0	5 10 6
British Regulus	95	1,474 18 0	15 1 0
Cobes	17463	923,001 4 0	13 13 6
Chill	6462	195,184 16 0	26 14 0
Copape	1809	30,275 2 0	21 14 0
Cake	623	15,111 13 0	9 4 0
Chaser	277	6,290 5 0	16 13 0
Crosshase	672	3,339 1 0	4 10 6
Cumorees	751	3,269 1 0	3 1 0
Cushen	833	1,064 2 0	6 9 0
Kankashan	6550	61,003 15 0	7 2 0
Lacknor	855	8,171 8 0	10 18 0
Lanidown	977	2,064 17 0	3 9 0
Llewidd	389	1,798 2 0	3 5 0
Luxey	314	710 0 0	9 8 0
Llanidory	31	471 11 0	10 4 0
Mr. San Fernando	171	8,066 13 0	12 17 0
Mill Drama	193	9,140 16 0	10 19 0
Prince	760	1,178 0 0	4 9 0
Phoenix	383	923 0 0	1 1 0
Santiago	10000	179,471 19 0	12 10 0
Soudley small mines	656	3,580 0 0	4 4 0
Tiggyw	363	1,700 0 0	4 12 0
Valparaiso	1042	61,150 7 0	20 8 0
Ore consigned to the English Copper Company in the year.			
Cornish Venus		7094	
Trenewas Consols		602	
Cook's Kitchen		360	
Wheel Agar		29	
Dulfield Mines		10	
Wheel Kinn		11	
Wheel John		6	
Total 21 cwt.		6012	
Copper Ore sold in Cornwall, from June 30, 1842, to June 30, 1843.			
Average standard	£110 1 2	Average produce	7 7 0
Average price per 21 cwt.	£11 11 0	Fine Copper	10,000 tons 1 cwt. 0 lbs.
Amount of money	£64,442 10 0	Copper ore	144,000 tons 100 lbs.
			£133,000 100 lbs.
Consigned to the English Copper Co.			
Copper Ore sold in Wales, from June 30, 1842, to June 30, 1843.			
Average standard	£100 2 0	Average produce	144
Average price per 21 cwt.	£11 8 0	Fine copper	10,000 tons 1 cwt. 0 lbs.
Amount of money	£20,312 10 0	Copper ore	40,000 100 lbs.
			50,000 100 lbs.
Total in Cornwall and Wales.			
Copper ore	301,000 21 cwt.	Fine copper	30,000 tons 1 cwt. 0 lbs.
Amount of money	£1,000,000 10 0		
Copper Ore purchased in Cornwall and Wales by the Copper Company, from June 30, 1842, to June 30, 1843.			
Partners.			
William & Co. & Others	£10,000	£1,000 0 0	£10,000 0 0
Trevarno and Sons	45,347	4,700 0 0	45,347 0 0
English Copper Co.	24,000	3,000 0 0	24

2. One or more delegates to be appointed to meet at a certain point, and discuss the subject, and determine on the course to be pursued.
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 4. To communicate with the proprietors or lords of collieries and ironstone grounds, with the view of diminishing the dead rent, or repay.
 5. To form a committee, or medium of communication, whereby the general interests of the iron trade may be protected.
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THE ENDLESS LADDER.

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GRYLLE'S ANNUAL MINING SHEET,

FROM THE 30TH OF JUNE, 1842, TO THE 30TH OF JUNE, 1843.

Containing the quantity of Copper Ore sold from each Mine, British and Foreign—the Average Price per 21 cwt., and the Amount of Money—each Copper Company's Purchase—the Total Amount of Ore, Fliss Copper, and Money—the Average Standard, Produce, and Price for the year, both in Cornwall and Wales—the quantity of Tin purchased by the Tin Companies within the same time, &c.

Mines.	Ore.	Amount.	Avg. price.
Bodmin	2,277	430,833 18	6 4 12
Buller, Wheal	978	4,728 11	6 4 15
Brewer, Wheal	682	3,303 0 0	5 1 6
Bury, Wheal	513	311 11 6	2 8 0
Consolidated Mines	10,026	20,337 0 0	5 13 0
Camden Vein, An.	1,943	10,749 12 0	8 10 6
Carna Blue Mines	1,713	9,861 0 0	5 13 0
Creeg Bravas	487	5,882 0 0	6 7 8
Charlestown United Mines	395	4,458 2 0	11 4 0
Curtis, Wheal	493	1,961 12 0	3 17 0
Dolcoath	3817	18,168 0 0	4 15 0
Darlington, Wheal	3073	12,464 11 0	3 0 0
East Wheal Crofty	3974	33,338 11 0	3 11 6
East Pool	2,402	14,029 12 0	6 4 0
Ellies, Wheal	949	4,554 0 0	4 15 0
East Downs, Williams'	324	3,138 12 0	3 12 0
Powey Consols	1,725	78,787 2 0	5 14 0
Friendship, Wheal, An.	3188	23,088 1 0	4 11 0
Francis's Ore	245	619 12 0	3 10 0
Gorinard, Wheal	656	3,292 12 0	5 0 0
Granular and St. Asaph	97	617 1 0	6 7 0
Great Work	82	495 17 0	6 1 0
Hallensteig	4,313	17,731 10 0	4 2 0
Holmhouse	2,441	19,528 3 0	8 0 0
Harriet, Wheal	1,115	4,240 18 0	3 16 0
Harvey's Ore	1,072	1,866 12 0	1 16 0
Harmony, Wheal	139	667 12 0	4 7 0
Herland	61	347 13 0	6 7 0
Jewell, Wheal	1,933	11,372 12 0	5 17 0
Levant	6356	19,809 0 0	8 8 0
Maiden, Wheal	441	2,107 15 0	4 15 0
Messer, Wheal	118	713 15 0	6 1 0
North Kestle	4,971	29,702 18 0	5 13 0
North Downs	1,419	8,540 3 0	6 6 0
Neptune, Wheal	98	538 7 0	3 10 0
Par Consols	6756	43,988 11 0	8 10 0
Poldice	2,030	12,572 12 0	5 13 0
Providence, Wheal	1,273	8,194 11 0	7 4 0
Providence Mines	1,270	6,807 3 0	5 1 0
Penstrehall	1,088	1,831 17 0	8 3 0
Phoenix Mines	72	629 17 0	9 7 0
Pearse, Wheal	81	390 0 0	4 16 0
South Caradon	1,703	34,413 1 0	6 0 0
South Wheal Bassett	3,702	23,419 0 0	6 1 0
South Hesketh, An.	1,642	9,276 9 0	5 0 0
St. Andrew, Wheal	987	3,615 1 0	5 13 0
Speed, Wheal	388	1,191 16 0	3 10 0
St. Ives Consols	80	685 0 0	8 4 0
Steady small mines	1,689	7,416 2 0	3 18 0
Treasures	1,6729	53,373 9 0	5 1 0
Trethellan	2,014	16,468 16 0	4 4 0
Trewavas, Wheal	2,491	16,138 10 0	6 9 0
Treligau Consols	1,764	7,299 2 0	4 2 0
Trotton	1,398	6,368 11 0	4 11 0
Tregullane	569	9,311 14 0	5 13 0
Trewith, Wheal	349	1,039 11 0	5 13 0
Trefry's Ore	87	1,700 16 0	20 17 0
Tregothian Consols	374	789 17 0	3 2 0
United Mines	10,995	50,332 19 0	8 8 0
United Hills	3,559	14,760 6 0	4 8 0
Virgin, Wheal	939	19,014 18 0	5 10 0
Vivyan, Wheal	389	1,037 19 0	3 3 0
West Caradon	1,376	6,808 13 0	6 8 0
West Wheal Jewell	1,309	7,376 12 0	5 11 0
W. A. L. E. S.			
America	100	1,713 11 0	17 3 0
Bearhaven	4,094	30,790 6 0	6 8 0
Bacuraceo	319	3,043 6 0	12 7 0
Ballymairagh	906	3,193 18 0	3 10 0
British Regatta	96	1,474 19 0	15 1 0
Cobes	17,463	933,081 4 0	12 13 0
Chilli	8,453	192,184 16 0	32 14 0
Coquijo	1,660	38,270 2 0	21 14 0
Coin	923	15,111 13 0	24 0 0
Chaseval	877	6,060 5 0	18 13 0
Crosshays	879	8,338 1 0	4 10 0
Croesos	731	6,939 1 0	3 1 0
Crook	932	1,054 0 0	6 0 0
Knocknabone	62,590	61,002 15 0	2 3 0
Lackenay	365	8,171 8 0	18 0 0
Lambeth	977	9,064 17 0	3 0 0
Lloyd	398	1,734 7 0	2 3 0
Leasy	314	710 0 0	9 2 0
Llansid	31	471 11 0	13 4 0
Mr. Bea Fernande	171	8,266 13 0	13 17 0
Mill Dross	199	9,140 16 0	18 10 0
Prins	988	1,379 9 0	4 9 0
Phoenix	939	883 0 0	1 0 0
Ratting	10,660	170,471 19 0	13 18 0
Steady small mines	656	3,000 0 0	4 4 0
Tigris	263	1,200 3 0	4 12 0
Valparaiso	1,949	31,159 7 0	30 3 0
Gold ore sold by public ticketing, at Liverpool	1,424	43,488 13 0	28 19 0
Over consigned to the English Copper Company in the year.			
Carna Blue Mines	7004		
Treasures Consols	393		
Cook's Kitchen	360		
Wheal Agar	39		
Dulford Mines	12		
Wheal Killy	11		
Wheal Julius	6		
Total fl. cwt.	3,000		
Copper Ore sold in Cornwall, from June 30, 1842, to June 30, 1843.			
Average standard	£110 1 0	Average produce	7 7 0
Average price per 21 cwt.	£11 11 0	Fliss Copper	10,000 tons 1 cwt. £100
Amount of money	£1,000,442 19 0	Copper ore	1,000,000 fl. cwt.
			£100,000 fl. cwt.
Consigned to the English Copper Co.			
Copper Ore sold in Wales, from June 30, 1842, to June 30, 1843.			
Average standard	£109 9 0	Average produce	164
Average price per 21 cwt.	£11 0 0	Fliss copper	10,000 tons 1 cwt. £100
Amount of money	£1,000,213 4 0	Copper ore	1,000,000 fl. cwt.
			£100,000 fl. cwt.
Total fl. cwt.			
Copper ore, 800,000 fl. cwt.—Fliss copper, 10,000 tons 1 cwt. £100			
Amount of money, £1,000,213 4 0			
Copper Ore purchased in Cornwall and Wales by the Copper Company, from June 30, 1842, to June 30, 1843.			
Purchaser	Ore.	Copper.	Money.
Williams & Co. & Cheva Co.	£1,000	7,700 12 0 0	£100,000
Tolias and Sons			

ORIGINAL CORRESPONDENCE.

DR. PAYENNE'S PROCESS FOR PURIFYING AIR IN MINES.
TO THE EDITOR OF THE MINING JOURNAL.

Sir.—In answer to a communication from "A Miner," in your Journal of the 16th instant, relative to Dr. Payenne's invention for purifying the air in confined places, I beg to state, that the experiment adduced by him was probably amongst the first tried by that gentleman; but that the application having been since much improved, is now being put in operation in some mines in Cornwall, with every prospect of success.

London, July 25.

[We are obliged to our correspondent for his communication, and doubt not but that "A Miner" will reply to him in our next, either admitting the fact, or explaining the cause to which his letter is to be attributed.]

HOLLOW AND SOLID RAILWAY AXLES.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MINING JOURNAL.

Sir.—In your Journal of the 16th inst., I observe that the accuracy of my letter on the experiments at Wakefield is denied. I was present during the examination of the machinery of the proceedings, but took no notes, being informed that a copy of the account furnished for the inspection of the directors and other gentlemen interested in the trial, might be had if required; from which I beg to hand you the following extracts, which fully confirm my statement.

Barrow, Rawson.

Agent for Messrs. Boulton, Watt, and Co., Barrow Foss, near Leeds, Yorkshire, No. 5—old shaft, made of Kirkdale. The journal of this shaft contained fifty-five and fifty-one-hundredths respectively, without any appearance of a crack.

And again—old shaft, No. 2, made at Kirkdale. Journal, No. 1, was not fractured with fifty-one blows.

Journal, No. 2, was not fractured with fifty-five blows—breaks off on being struck on opposite side twenty-one blows.

MINING IN SPAIN—NO. VI.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MINING JOURNAL.

Sir.—The site made to Carthagena by and on behalf of the miners, is ordered to secure such an adequate supply of coal as would suffice them to carry on their present works, and increase their number, now called forth a spirit of competition in Asturias, where every effort certainly is making by the natives to work the collieries within their own province. Accordingly, in the middle of last May, a little pamphlet made its appearance at Oviedo, entitled "Oval, and the Protection which the Government ought to afford to it," in which the writer very strenuously, and, we must confess, very justly, contends, that the working of Spanish collieries ought to be encouraged by the Government, on the grounds of public utility and private interest. "Spain (says he) possesses the most beautiful coal deposits in Europe, whereby the central districts no longer have reason to envy those situated on the coast. The collieries of Asturias (he adds), owing to their vicinity to the ports of Gijon, Aviles, Villaviciosa, Ribadedeva, and San Esteban, can satisfy the wants of all the ports in the kingdom; while those of Boimosa, Cestona, Andinas, and the Castile, place the interior provinces in a situation to participate in the advantages which that valuable fuel affords." No doubt as to the existence of coal in Spain, on various points, are now entertained; but that is not the question that concerns the Carthagenaans, as will have been seen by their sentiments, reproduced in my two last papers. The question with them is, whether, after laying out their capital in mining, and the construction of works to reduce the coal, they are now to stand still till the Asturians have made roads to the seaports, and are able to proceed easier to send their coal to the Mediterranean, in order there to compete with the foreign supply.

The small quantities of coal exported from Asturias, as exhibited in the returns published in my last letter, render it impossible (at present, at least,) for the people of that province to meet the consumption on the Mediterranean coast, where it is calculated that if the Carthagenaan smelting works alone are kept going, they will require from 4000 to 6000 quintals of coal and coke per day. The Asturians have not shown that they can meet that demand. Two years' labour and the employment of capital, in all likelihood, with them, will alter the state of things; and then they may be in a situation to meet the demand in the northern provinces. As regards the quality of the Asturian coal, the writer of the pamphlet is very bold; all he says is, that it "has been tried by the best professors in England, France, and Germany, who have declared it to be equal to that of Newcastle; and that Messrs. Harrods, the largest merchants in Australia, prefer it to English coal." The Carthagenaan miners think otherwise, and to that effect have fearlessly expressed their opinion; but as, at the same time, it would appear foolish to wish in them to possess the Asturians from having a fair trial, as to to lay the decision of the dispute between them to time and future contingencies, the Mining Junta addressed the following memorial to the Regent of the Kingdom, praying the removal of such obstacles as have hitherto prevented home coal from coming to their market, at a reasonable price—

Memorandum No.—The Central Mining Junta, established in Carthagena, with all due diligence, has been to collect to your Highnesses, that, the principal object of their institution being to promote, by every means in their power, the prosperity of the mining industry in general, they cannot but keep themselves in close touch with the interests of the lower provinces, and the supply of coal there, as being a material of the greatest importance for the encouragement of all other branches of industry. Accordingly, an examination and large estimation of foreign coal has taken place, to the great pleasure of the members, who, in reality, have got the English Junta, and, possibly, to the detriment of the Asturian corporation, whose works have not yet received that examination which the excess of their coal deserves.

Under these circumstances, it would seem just and expedient—*etc.*, *etc.*—to propose to examine the character and difference which prevail throughout which we ought to study more closely with that of our own, in preference to that derived from foreign markets; these interests of particular and public utility, all the interests of one industry merit secondary rank; but, this cannot be admitted, as long as the progress of the Asturian industry is not sufficiently advanced and encouraging to meet the wants of the Asturian works, established on the Mediterranean coast. Whence, the Central Junta of this city of Asturias, that it is of the utmost importance to aid the coal interest of Asturias, by securing it from all those interests which have hitherto impeded its growth and, secured upon these means, may therefore pray His Majesty to order the abolition of the existing importation duty, the exemption of tolls, and the reduction of the existing local taxes, so that coal may have a tendency to meet even to the strongest drifts, by preventing the means by which men can do this. This desire the Central Mining Junta hope to meet these requirements, as being the foundation of that industrial wealth, which will serve to render a nation deserving of a better fate.

(Signed)—JUAN BARTOLOME DE BOUZA, President.

Barcelona, June 1.

It would then seem, that the Central Junta have given up the idea of abolishing the abolition of the reduced duty on foreign coal; and, under the impression that the Government is in duty bound to favor and uphold any great branch of industry that may rise up in their own country (a principle which, naturally, wholly or partially, they are now disposed that these interests should, as soon as possible, be removed, which have hitherto kept up the price of home coal. On the one hand, cry out the Asturians, "if you take off the reduced duty on foreign coal (say 2 dials per quintal) on animal vessels, and 3 dials in foreign bottoms), you prevent us from developing our industry in a proper manner; while the Carthagenaans argue that they cannot meet their own of foreign coal at present high prices. Thus, therefore, in case a question that regards the Spanish interests, but there is still another rising out of it which deeply interests our real proprietors in the North, and who they might not be angry. A pretty correct estimate may be formed, from the details into which I have entered, in my series of papers on "Mining in Spain," of the quantity of foreign coal used over sea, English—most generally consumed on the Mediterranean coast, which in the last three years has tripled; and, as facts works are constructing on several ports, the demand for this article necessarily goes on increasing. But, then, the real proprietors in the same country to whom they are offered their commanding at a cheaper rate than it has hitherto been in the foreign market. It is high time that they, as well as the Government, should bear that coal is not a monopoly in our hands. We have our great competitors abroad; and there is no possibility of reducing a preference unless the price cost and freight are reduced. It is for this reason that this coal can be done. In quantity, however, they have no competitor; that is to say, they already have coal in Spain; and who knows how soon we may have another in Portugal.

Let it not be forgotten, that, in 1834, the interests of the Phœnix de Génie, in the district of Oviedo, paid 42 dials per quintal; in 1837, 43 dials; in 1839, 40 dials; in 1840, 43 dials; 1841, 42 dials; and in 1842, 40 dials. The interests of Somos, in the district of Oviedo, paid 43 dials—until 1837, 42 dials; in 1838, 40 dials; and in 1839, 39 dials. In Somos, it was, perhaps, never imagined that there are now to be forced to Portugal, with, nevertheless, a loss; and, although, with a heavy proportion, and sufficient territorial protection, it is not more conducive to the interests of the Portuguese to give this coal away freely, than to give coal, for high prices, might drive those to that alternative.

London, Aug. 26.

ON FURNACES AND BOILERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE MINING JOURNAL.

Six.—In your Number of the 15th, I had a letter signed "Investigator" (which would have had increased value had the writer added his real name to it), in which he puts the following query—1st. What does the boiler on his (Mr. C. W. Williams's) patent at Liverpool show? say, with the consumption of ten tons of coal, what weight of water is evaporated with his patent heated chamber furnace.—2d. What amount, in weight, of water is evaporated with the same quantity, without the patent's improvements, on the old plan? "Investigator" avows his object to be the ascertaining the relative value of the old and new furnaces, yet both his queries directly apply to the evaporative powers of the boilers, as though the good or bad qualities of the latter had no effect on their amount of evaporation, apart from the good or bad qualities of the former. It is manifest he has not sufficiently attended to the necessary distinction between the functions of the furnace and fuel, as generators of heat, and those of the boiler, as a generator of steam. Those questions are the same as though he had asked, how many cubic feet of steam will an engine produce, employing, while the boiler will evaporate two pounds weight of water? The appropriate answer would, in each case, be, that the question referred to the efficiency of the engine, and not to that of the boiler, which could not, therefore, be taken as a test of the latter; so, until we separate the evaporative, or heat-absorbing, facilities of the boiler from the heat-generating facilities of the furnace and fuel, it is impossible to draw any inference, either as to the one or the other, that can be depended on. The functions of the furnace are the generating of heat by aiding the process of combustion of the fuel it contains; those of the boiler are, the generating of steam, by absorbing and applying that heat, and thus aiding the process of evaporation.

That these functions are different, and often opposed to each other, will not be disputed. I have myself two boilers, one of which is capable of evaporating 20 per cent. more water with the same plan of furnace than the other—the reason being, that the one is capable of taking up and applying more of the heat that is generated than the other, the excess, in the latter case, passing off by the chimney. This excess of heat, beyond what the boiler can take up, or retain, must be taken into account, as equivalent to so much additional water evaporated; otherwise, we may as well attempt to estimate the contents of an imperial gallon, by the quantity which can be retained in the old and smaller gallon measure, without taking into account the excess, which will necessarily flow over and be wasted. But why attempt to measure, or estimate, the capabilities of one class of vessels, by those of another and totally different class? The improvements of the boiler, and its evaporative powers, belong to a totally different class of conditions and principles, from the improvements in the furnace, and its power of aiding combustion. I undertake to show how more heat may be produced from any given weight of fuel, by improved means of introducing atmospheric oxygen to the combustible, but it is a very different matter to show how any given quantity of that heat can be best applied by a boiler. Seeing, also, the endless variety of boilers, many of them being constructed as though they were designed to prevent combustion, and to waste the heat, rather than apply it. I stand up in defense of the fuel and the furnace, and protest against their being visited with the sins of the boiler. I make the heat, says the furnace, but if the boiler waste it, why not put the saddle on the right horse? Let each be accountable alone for its own imperfections.

If "Investigator" were desirous of ascertaining the relative merits of the old and new system of admitting air to furnaces, his query, to have a practical tendency, and that they should not deceive himself, should be shaped thus:—What quantity of heat will be generated in the "patent heated furnace," when the air is admitted on the new system, as compared with the old system of admitting the air to the ash pit? But if he required information as to the relative value of different kinds of boilers, his question should be—What quantity of water will be evaporated, and how much of the heat generated will escape, without aiding in the work of evaporation? Let us not, then, stultify ourselves, by taking the boiler as the test of the efficiency of furnace or fuel, as though the former, as a matter of certainty, always absorbed the whole of the heat generated by the latter. The following experiments, most accurately made (several of them by Mr. Parkes), will, I trust, supply as much information as the nature of his questions will admit, or that he will explain in what they fail to satisfy his object. By comparing the first, under the old system, with the others under the new system, the value of the latter may be ascertained.

As "Investigator" were desirous of ascertaining the relative merits of the old and new system of admitting air to furnaces, his query, to have a practical tendency, and that they should not deceive himself, should be shaped thus:—What quantity of heat will be generated in the "patent heated furnace," when the air is admitted on the new system, as compared with the old system of admitting the air to the ash pit? But if he required information as to the relative value of different kinds of boilers, his question should be—What quantity of water will be evaporated, and how much of the heat generated will escape, without aiding in the work of evaporation? Let us not, then, stultify ourselves, by taking the boiler as the test of the efficiency of furnace or fuel, as though the former, as a matter of certainty, always absorbed the whole of the heat generated by the latter. The following experiments, most accurately made (several of them by Mr. Parkes), will, I trust, supply as much information as the nature of his questions will admit, or that he will explain in what they fail to satisfy his object. By comparing the first, under the old system, with the others under the new system, the value of the latter may be ascertained.

According to Kind of coal. Mode of fire. Weight of water. Water Temp. used. Weight of steam. of evaporated vapour. coal used. per hour. incip. imp.

Old system— coal used	New system— incip. imp.	1. Hobson. Active. Full size. 160 ² . 412 ² . 828 ² . 815 ² .
1. Hobson. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	2. Hobson. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	3. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
4. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	5. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	6. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
7. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	8. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	9. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
10. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	11. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	12. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
13. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	14. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	15. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
16. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	17. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	18. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
19. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	20. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	21. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
22. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	23. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	24. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
25. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	26. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	27. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
28. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	29. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	30. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
31. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	32. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	33. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
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40. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	41. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	42. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
43. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	44. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	45. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
46. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	47. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	48. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
49. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	50. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	51. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
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67. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	68. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	69. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
70. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	71. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	72. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
73. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	74. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	75. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
76. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	77. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	78. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.
79. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	80. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600. 700.	81. Hobson. Active. 800. 1000. 30. 700. 600

UNION OF INVENTION.

A meeting was held on Friday, the 21st instant, at the British Hotel, Cambridge-street, Captain CHARVILLI, C.I.C.S., in the chair.

The CHAIRMAN remarked that he had been unexpectedly called upon to take a prominent position in the affairs of the day—and, consequently, had not had time to make himself entirely master of the subject before them. He thought that he could not do better than refer it at once to Mr. Emslie—a gentleman who had devoted much attention to the subject of the meeting, and who would furnish them with ample particulars.

Mr. Emslie read the prospectus, detailing the objects and advantages of "The Union of Invention," observing that although the sum proposed to carry out the objects contemplated might appear small, being a deposit only of £1 per share on 2500 shares, or £2500, it could be shown to be amply sufficient for all purposes except that of building, which latter would be entirely an after consideration—to extract from the proprietary themselves. The first object proposed was the formation of a library of the most complete descriptions, having all works on scientific subjects. To those who were not patentees he would say a few words on the evils of the present system of taking out patents—evils which must be abolished now—the encouragement of invention was so much the object of the day. A man is making an invention now, goes immediately to the patent agent to obtain an opinion before the sealing of the patent, and thus subjects himself to the charge of having published his ideas, and, consequently, to the loss of all benefit arising from the patent. The patent agent, whose interest it is to take out every patent applied for, whether good, bad, or indifferent, having made sure of his fees and charges, which are, in most cases, very exorbitant, without informing the inventor as to the true state of his case, proceeds with the usual legal forms, and puts (after having been paid, on an English patent only, the sum of £30, or £35, but considerably more if, in any of its stages, it has been opposed) the purchase, with the great seal affixed, into his hands, and, in seven cases out of ten, the mere cost of the raw materials of the patent is of greater value than the invention. Not above a tithe of the patents taken out are ever worked; and, therefore, it is left to the meeting to say, whether or not something is required to be done to save—or, at least, to direct—the money and time of the inventor into a better channel; for it is evident, that if a man, at the cost of his invention, he but satisfied as in its insufficiency, his mind would be free for forming some other conception of practical use. In the proposed Union, any party desirous of securing to himself his invention, would lay before its officers, who would be bound to secrecy by the most powerful obligations, the machinery of its action; and, upon payment of small fees, instructed on the point of its originality and probable utility, which the officers will be enabled to give satisfactorily, so the appointments would be only put into such hands as are duly qualified; the party, therefore, has but little chance, if any, of going wrong. If the invention be considered good, the association will take the patent, on receiving payment of the proper fees and charges, and guarantee to furnish the use of all legal advice and assistance for such patent during the term of its existence. In addition to this, it is proposed to facilitate its introduction by every means in the power of the association, and protecting it from infringement—the loss of every poor man's patent, if at all valuable.

W. C. GILLAN, Esq., observed, no one could doubt but that the objects of the institution were of paramount importance; but as he desired much to see it obtain every success, and as there were some few points which, in his opinion, required alteration, he would move that a committee be appointed, to draw up a report, and to devise the best means of giving its principles the healthy publicity which they deserved. He considered that the "Union of Invention" ought to come before the public without a single objection to its details; and no means, he thought, so likely to obtain this satisfactorily as the appointing of a committee.—J. FOUGARTIN, Esq., seconded the motion, which was unanimously carried.

Mr. GILLAN said the committee should, after having finished their report, and the plan for carrying the objects of the institution into speedy operation, convene a general meeting with as little delay as possible; and he begged now to be allowed to say, with regard to one of the proposed officers of the institution—and he made the remark because, as that gentleman had been but a short time in London, he was not known so well as he deserved to be—that Mr. Emslie, C.E., who had convened that meeting, and had so ably explained its objects, had invented one of the best methods of incunabula now in existence. He begged to say, that he gave this, not as his own opinion, which might not be a competent one, but he stated it on the authority of one of the best engineers in London, and which was fully borne out by some of the best in Belgium. He mentioned this in order that the meeting might be satisfied of that gentleman's perfect ability to carry out any object he might undertake, or with which he might be entrusted.

A committee was then appointed, among whom were the Count de Boeddeker (of Brussels), Baron Mirat (of Orleáns), the Count Ernest de Caunes (of Paris), Capt. Charville, Messrs. Gillan, Nixon, Lunde, Boyle—the three first-named having also accepted the office of foreign corresponding members.—J. D. Wall, Esq., of 13, George-street, was appointed solicitor, and Mr. Emslie was requested to act as secretary pro tem.—The thanks of the meeting, having been voted to Captain Charville, for his efficient services in the chair, the meeting separated.

BALTIMORE AND FOREIGN INSTITUTE.—In our advertising columns of to-day will be found the report of the proceedings at a meeting held for the purpose of promoting and cultivating the "intellectual pleasures and pursuits" of the community at large—as well as offering to the visitor from distant lands, or the country gentleman, who may occasionally visit the "Great Metropolis," the medium of introduction, as well as the means of intellectual enjoyment, with the advantages of a literary and scientific institution. We have not space to enter into the merits of the plan, which, however, we propose doing on an early occasion; nor is it, indeed, necessary, at present, to do more than advert to the local prospectus, which will be found in another place.

COLLEGE OF CIVIL ENGINEERS, PORTSMOUTH.—The annual distribution of the prizes at this institution took place on Wednesday last, in the hall of the establishment, which was fitted up for the occasion.—The estate was taken by the Duke of Buccleugh (the president), and the address read by the chairman of the council, the Earl of Devon. It stated that the attendance on the classes in the various branches of science, as well as the conduct of the students, had been highly satisfactory, and particularly the efforts of Mr. Cubitt, Mr. Walker, and Mr. Barry, the eminent engineers, who had given every facility to the students to inspect the works under their control, which had been of exceptional beauty.—On its conclusion, the president said he felt great satisfaction in finding that a few words he had addressed to them last year appeared to have had an advantageous effect. He called upon them to pursue their studies with increased ardour, as all were bound to exert their talents for the good of their fellow-men.—The meeting was well attended, and about 300 ladies and gentlemen sat down to an elegant dinner &c in flourishing after the termination of the business.

THE FINE ARTS.—Most of our readers have heard of the celebrated "Bower Show"—certainly the most elaborately illustrated work ever produced, and valued at 2000 guineas. Our object in referring to it, is from having directed to the circumstances of its projected disposal, after the manner of drawing for prize pictures at the Art Union of London, in connection with an array of engravings, which, for repose and striking value, should induce every admirer of pictorial elegance, or whose desire may be to create a work which possesses so many claims, not only from its nature, but the splendid (we speak seriously) manner in which it is constructed, to pay a visit to the establishment of the enterprising and spirited proprietress, Mrs. Parker, of Golden-square, of whose urbanity and kindness we have had a demonstration on more than one occasion, and which induces us to believe that the splendid work to which we refer, as well as the series of engravings in Mrs. Parker's collection, will be open to the inspection of all persons interested in the fine arts. Without entering into the question of art values, or the principles which regulate their production, the fact of a collection of the most valuable productions of our day being offered for disposal by certainly the most popular medium, under the guidance of such gentlemen as R. H. Caldwell, Lord G. Picton, Moxon, Egerton, the Landseer, Cotman, Gainsborough, Turner, &c, &c, is in itself a sufficient guarantee for the exhibition of the most approved taste in the collection, and the estimate of the amount however in the management of the transaction. As an instance of the value of the prizes of a secondary nature to the celebrated Bower, we find Hillier's historical picture of the Triumphant Entry of the Duke of Wellington into Madrid (value 20 guineas), together with thirteen prints of from 16 to 20 guineas each, including the Pictures and Illustrations of Bawing Maps, of Cooper's history, and many others of equal rank among the productions of modern artists.—The day appointed for the distribution of the prizes in, we understand, fixed for 1852 August. To the honour of the Society, we know of no instance which has hitherto occurred on their address.

AN ALLEGED GRABBER.—A large quarry has been continuously discovered at Chelmsford, close to the road-wheel, and in that part of the valley called Queen's Hill, where the soil is an interesting mixture from old quarry earth. The name of "gravel" dignifies quarrying, and this spot lies within the bounds of the ancient Roman walls of Chelmsford. The quarry-work has apparently been very ancient. Unlike our present quarries, it is not worked from the exposed surface down by a pit, but crevices under the plough-worn bank generally. On consulting, you dig into several crevices or cavities forming passages or tunnels, the road being supported by stumps of the original rock of various heights, left standing. The principal road passes in the Forest of Dean and through the new railway-line, and the eastern Roman walls of Chelmsford. The earliest site of this railway-line (the former), according to the city walls of the Roman walls, offer a remarkable proof for antiquity (2000 years old). But this site was prior to the creation of the church, as we have general, and a Roman connection.—With and

MINING CORRESPONDENCE.

FOREIGN MINES.

REAL DEL MONTE MINING COMPANY.

Alfonso del Monte, May 21.—(Received via New York.)—In the estimate of costs and returns for May, we calculated on having 45 bars of silver only, whereas the actual produce is as follows:—In the Higueras mine there is, Pinto, 24, and Pindolito, 17—making together 41 bars; and in the Sanchez, 14—making a total of 55 bars. The increase is owing to an additional torta having been baked at Higueras. You will see by my letter of the 23rd inst., that we have made successful trials in calcinating the Espiguela ore; and I have great expectation, by its adoption on a large scale, to obtain equal, if not better, results. I am now exceedingly anxious about making trials on the colomina of El Sacramento, and I have little doubt of being equally successful. Of these ores we can raise a very large quantity, containing about 1 more per cent, and which, certainly, ought to leave a fair profit. The two new calcining furnaces erected at Sanchez will be finished next week, when we shall proceed making fresh trials on the Espiguela ore, from Huasca, and also on the colomina ore of Sacramento; two small pieces of the latter are now in the Pinto, both having been calcined (one with salt), and they appear to be going on very well. The alteration of the pitwork at Trescas, noticed in my letter of the 23rd, has been made, and the water is now sinking rapidly; the new calcining furnace erected at Sanchez will be finished next week, when we shall proceed making fresh trials on the Espiguela ore, from Huasca, and also on the colomina ore of Sacramento; two small pieces of the latter are now in the Pinto, both having been calcined (one with salt), and they appear to be going on very well. 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